09/762691 ec'd PCT/PTO 09 FEB 2001

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 81640

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OLIVER DANNE ET AL

In re Application of:

Serial No.: Unassign

Group Art Unit: Unkno

Examiner: Unkne

Filed: Herewith For: IN-VITRO METHOD FOR

DETECTING AND DIAGNOSING) ACUTE CORONARY

SYNDROMES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the amendment below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 6 and 8 as follows:

6. (Amended) The in vitro method as claimed in [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) methods, biochemical, enzymatic, immunological, clinical-chemical, chromatographic, mass spectrometric, electrochemical, photometric methods are applied to determine choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and